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DIARY NOTES

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11 January 1955

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1. Met with Jim Garrison, [REDACTED] Larry Houston, Ed Saunders, and Gates Lloyd to discuss the agenda for our meeting with Max Elliott, General Counsel, General Services Administration, and Pete Strobel, Commissioner of Public Buildings, on Thursday. Of significant importance is our opinion that we should attempt to get a direct appropriation rather than make a lease-purchase arrangement.

2. Ed Saunders advised me that in paying our bills we do take advantage of all of the discounts that we possibly can.

3. I talked to Ed about the situation in the ICAB of the Finance Division. Asked him to get together with Jim Garrison without delay and to give me a specific recommendation as to what he proposed to do to alleviate the present situation and work off those contracts which might cause us trouble on 30 June.

4. I reminded Ed of the Director's desire to avoid signing vouchers before the money is expended. He explained that this occurred only very rarely when we had a big project which could not be handled within the total limits of advances allowed to our agent cashier. However, I asked him to make a brief study of this and to give me a piece of paper so that I could talk to the Director about it again.

5. I told Ed that I thought he should have a man make a survey of the Western Hemisphere stations sometime in the near future.

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6. Spoke to Jim Garrison about the general situation in his Office. I thoroughly emphasized that I thought he needed to tighten up things internally and also told him that from my conversations with [REDACTED] as well as other information which had come to me, I thought that he had a few strong personality clashes with some of his people in the "command" echelon and that there was a feeling that he was pretty well sealed off from the rest of his Office by "staff." (In this connection, Kirk has indicated to me that there are some serious personality problems in the Logistics Office which will not be mentioned in his report. However, before the report is forwarded to the Logistics Office he has agreed to sit down and discuss the whole matter with me personally.)

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Later in the day [REDACTED] told me that in General [REDACTED] briefing of the Clark Committee he had proposed the establishment of a Deputy Director for Logistics. I sent for Jim Garrison and told him of this incident, about which he did not know. In fact, he stated that he had strongly emphasized to General [REDACTED] that he should not get into any controversial subjects with this group. I told Jim that General [REDACTED] must be brought under immediate control and that if he, Garrison, could not do so I wanted to talk to the General myself without delay. I stated that I thought General [REDACTED] had great ability and that we wanted to take advantage of it as much as we possibly could, but that if he could not take direction and play the game as I had advised both him and Jim I wanted it played then it might be necessary for us to get along without his services.

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